

In fact

For The Millions Who Want a Free Press

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Auto Makers and Coughlin

USUALLY the Rev Charles E Coughlin keeps his connections with Michigan industrialists under cover. Last week Frederic J Fisher, oldest of the seven Fisher brothers and for ten years vice pres and gen'l manager of General Motors, was buried in Detroit. Present were Mr and Mrs Jesse Jones and Mr and Mrs Henry Ford, K T Keller, Alfred M Sloan Jr, Charles E Wilson and Alvan Macauley, representing the three biggest auto firms. The Rev Charles E Coughlin was deacon of the mass.

The newspaper obituaries described Fisher as a devout churchman but suppressed the fact that he was an enemy of labor, one of the biggest employers of labor spies (La Follette Committee report). Cincinnati Times revealed that Fisher was a director of Vickers, biggest organization of "merchants of death" in the world.

FBI Accused

FBI's head, J Edgar Hoover, writes an angry letter to an IN FACT reader who sent the May 12 issue of IN FACT to Walter Winchell, who sent it to Hoover. Hoover replies by smearing all his critics as reds, criminals or misinformed and ignorant persons. He denies he is hostile to labor. Not a single fact listed in IN FACT is refuted.

New facts for Mr Hoover: NY Times, July 17, reports West Coast CIO leader Harry Bridges saying that "German-American Bund spies had been active in West Coast airplane plants but the FBI has done nothing about it although informed of the situation by his (Bridges') union . . . that the Consolidated, Douglas and other West Coast airplane plants were 'overrun' with Bund members a couple of years ago, that the Bund members worked with labor spies and that the FBI knew all about it. 'We had names, dates and places,' Bridges continued. 'We had details about planes built with parts left out. There were 14 planes flopped in 12 months on their trial flights.'"

Bridges claims the FBI refused to investigate espionage when committed by Germans but sent men to try to get something on CIO leaders. As a result of German sabotage many planes were wrecked and men were killed. This is a specific charge: Mr Hoover must answer it or be considered guilty.

The FBI is still attempting to destroy labor unions, Joseph Curran told Maritime Union convention, July 14. Mr Curran asked Hoover to devote his outfit to hunting Nazi spies and saboteurs.

So far as IN FACT is concerned, it will retract any statement of fact made in previous issues if Mr Hoover can prove it false or unfair. It will also print any answer to foregoing charges.

New US Army Training to Fight Labor;

Fascist Methods of War Department Exposed

FOR several months IN FACT has been receiving reports that throughout the United States the new democratic army which has been drafted to make America safe from fascism is receiving much the same training as Mussolini and Hitler give their "Squadristi" and "Schutzstaffel"—training to break strikes and smash the labor movement.

So many of these reports have now been confirmed that it can be stated as a fact that the new army is indeed being trained to fight a large part of the American people as well as foreign enemies.

The documentary evidence on hand adds up to an indictment of a nationwide attempt by either the War Dep't or the National Guard or Regular Army generals in command of training camps to pervert the democratic ideal of the entire training program.

It is no longer a matter of one or two isolated instances. It is a fact that instead of training boys to meet panzer divisions with tanks and guns, the first training received by many thousands of new soldiers is how to smash labor disputes, occupy mines, factories, and towns. This training continues in the face of refusal by Congress to pass bills legalizing military strikebreaking, in the face of protests from all wings of the labor movement.

The evidence on hand also confirms the fact that the US Army manual containing "shoot to kill" orders against strikers, which was withdrawn when exposed by the present editor of IN FACT years ago, is again in use.

Panorama of Anti-Democratic Actions

Before presenting the documents, here is a panorama of the native fascist or anti-democratic actions in the training camps of the new army of democracy:

Camp Stewart, Georgia: large scale anti-labor maneuvers.

Fort Hancock, New Jersey: machine gun practice against "strikers."

Fort Meade, Maryland: intensive training in riot duty.

Camp Edwards, Massachusetts: Yankee Division suppresses "strike."

Fort Ord, Monterey, California: strike training.

Inglewood, California: When Army occupied aviation plant, Los Angeles Times admitted that regiment had been training previously to smash picket lines.

Fort Bragg, North Carolina: Draftees on furlough report that some companies have been given lectures on suppressing "domestic disturbances" with illustrations drawn from strikes; other companies have been training in the use of bayonets to break strikes.

Camp McClellan, Alabama: Draftees were given customary "domestic disturbances" lectures and held in readiness for action during the Southern coal strike.

Draftees inducted in NJ receive a mimeographed sheet of instructions signed by E N Bloomer, Ass't State Director of Selective Service. Instruction No. 8: "Go to the Army with an open mind and forget any ideas which you now have unless you know they are correct. Keep your eyes and ears open. Obey orders in the best way you know how and you will succeed."

Here is the documentary evidence of one of many instances of fascist training in the new camps. IN FACT owns the original; it was sent in by an editor who not only believes in a free press but also in real democracy. We quote it without any change:

CAMP STEWART PRESS RELEASE

STEWART TROOPS TO QUELL MOCK STRIKE

Camp Stewart, Ga., July 2.—Camp Stewart's first troops to handle a "strike" situation today were prepared for action.

The 101st Separate Battalion was set to move out early tomorrow morning to put down a sham strike at a theoretical aluminum company, supposedly employing 700 men.

In the maneuver and field problem, first of its kind to be staged at Camp Stewart, the 101st troops will acts [so in original] out the parts of workers, strikers and soldiers in complete detail. Picket lines, clubs, placards, and soap box speeches will all be part of the show.

"Foreign agents," working under the name of the "Committee Representing (Resenting?) American Prosperity," are supposed to have influenced about 40 per cent of the 700 workers to go out on strike.

Troops of the 101st will be divided into three sections to represent the workers, strikers and troops. The workers, made up of Battery B troops, will be under command of Capt Paul W Caswell; the strikers, all of A Battery men, and Headquarters soldiers, will be under Lt Grady H Wright, Lt James H A Watkins and Lt John L Clark.

Capt William H Lindsey will command the "federal troops" who will move in. They will be made up from C and D Batteries.

"Soup Kitchens," theoretically established and operated by the local Red Cross, will be on hand to serve the various units. The troops will carry their own field kitchens to the scene of the strike.

After the troops move in and establish martial law so that the plant may resume normal operations, all units involved will return to the camp area to prepare for the three-day July 4 holiday.

In Italy from March 1919, when they were organized with money supplied by the manufacturers association, until Oct 1922, when they took over the government, the Squadristi or private army of Benito Mussolini was employed almost exclusively in putting down strikes in manufacturing plants, and terrorizing labor with guns and bayonets.

Fascism in Fort Hancock, Fort Meade, Camp Edwards

In four of the big training centers IN FACT has confirmed the reports that commanding generals are trying to make strikebreakers out of draftees, to use workingmen and sons of workingmen (the majority of draftees) against their brothers and fathers. IN FACT has also received scores of other reports from other camps which it cannot investigate owing to lack of funds.

In Fort Hancock, NJ, enlisted men were given machine gun and gas training for the purpose of smashing strikes. This action was begun the moment the President sent troops to break the North American Aviation strike. Whether it was done by order of the War Dep't or by order of commanding officer is not known to IN FACT.

When IN FACT published a paragraph on anti-labor preparations by the Army it received a note from Private P..... to transfer his subscription back home because his officer objected. IN FACT wrote the general protesting that IN FACT is a legal, pro-democracy and therefore patriotic publication whose editor was once a member of G-2-D, GHQ, American Expeditionary Force in France and highly recommended by General Pershing. Last Friday the Public Relations Officer of Fort Hancock phoned IN FACT to assure it that this publication is not banned in Fort Hancock and that an effort will be made to find the officer who violated camp orders by telling a soldier not to receive this publication while in service. IN FACT thanks Fort Hancock Public Relations Officer for friendly way in which this matter has been officially settled.

In Fort Meade, Md, it was disclosed by the Washington Post and US Week, June 21, that combat regiments of the 29th Division received intensive training "in riot duty, streetfighting and handling mobs." Training now in progress includes "actual use of troops in hypothetical riots, with rifles, bayonets, machine guns, gas and all infantry weapons. Battalions are given problems involving strikes and other situations conducive to disorder. . . . They are taught mopping up in city streets, dealing with snipers and methods of isolating and taking leaders and inciters of riots and disorders."

The Yankee Division, Camp Edwards, Mass, has engaged in the same practices, using the Army Dep't manual on "quelling domestic disturbances" which was supposedly withdrawn years ago.

A story in the NY Times May 25 described the rules issued by the Army for the State Guards, which have been established in most states to take the place of National Guard units now in training. The instructions are routine ("Physical training," "Dismounted drill," "The use of non-toxic gas and smoke," "Extended order drill") except for the last: "Methods and formations for suppressing domestic disturbances."

Newspapers Suppress Story of Army Fascism

Whereas there have been several incidents where military information of value to the enemy (Hitler, Mussolini) has been betrayed by newspapers (and politicians) the press is within its legal and ethical rights when it publishes the truth about fascist methods and actions in the training camps of the new army of democracy. However, few papers have mentioned the anti-labor training and fewer still have protested.

The worst case has been that of the Yankee Division. IN FACT readers have sent two tiny clippings, as follows:

New Bedford Standard Times, June 2: "Training of soldiers in Yankee Division combat units in the handling of civilian or labor disturbances continued today when the 101st Field Artillery started its training along these lines under the supervision of Major Seth E Robinson Jr of Cambridge, regimental intelligence officer. Both the legal aspects of such action and the actual field maneuvers to be employed were taken up.

Phony War News

EVERYONE knows that official DNB Nazi news service fakes the news, has done so in peace and wartime. Even readers without journalistic experience know that certain datelines mean phony items. On July 9 at 4.39 pm the United Press sent out this story:

"BERLIN, July 9 (UP). A Finnish High Command communique issued in Helsinki tonight, carried by the German DNB agency, reported that. . . ."

At 4.54 pm United Press send a bulletin: "Please change dateline on Finnish communique, Berlin, to read Helsinki and eliminate reference to the DNB agency."

As a Berlin item, from DNB, Finnish claims were worthless. Therefore United Press changed the dateline to Helsinki, although story came from Berlin. (IN FACT has original copy.)

War Dep't's Anti-Labor Bill

THE notorious May bill which would have outlawed the right to strike was killed in Congress mid-July when the representatives of millions of working people asked the House of Representatives to act for them and not for the handful of manufacturers and corporations who supply the \$25,000,000 fund which pays for the elections every four years. The Railroad Brotherhood's organ "Labor" reveals that the May bill, negating the Wagner act, outlawing strikes and pickets and empowering the President to use troops again against strikes, "had been lifted almost bodily out of the notorious M-day Plan for the conscription of labor in wartime. . . . The 'father' of the benighted measure, Congressman A J May (Dem, Ky) made the amazing claim that 'this bill is the greatest protection to labor in the history of the world.' A moment later he admitted that the 'brass hats' in the War Dep't were the real originators of the bill."

Liberties Union Protests

ATTY Gen'l (now Justice) Jackson said in connection with the proposed property seizure legislation that he doubted the legality of the President's action in the "seizure" of North American Aviation plant. IN FACT has obtained a photostat of the original order of operations, which has been protested as a violation of civil liberties by the American Civil Liberties Union. The order is:

Memo: Given to Colonel Ladd by General Peek at 3:30 PM

1. You will carry out the instructions of Col Branshaw.
2. You will establish a picket line around the plant.
 - a. This area will be closed to all traffic.
 - b. Within this area prevent any groups from forming.
 - c. Do not temporize.
3. Get out orders for your pickets and guard.
4. Arrange for hospitalization of civilian employees.
5. There will be no union pickets within our established picket lines.

G P Lynch, Major, 15th Inf, Adjutant.

The lawyer who supplied this photostat writes: "The specific violations of civil liberties involved in the situation include the forcible suppression of picket lines, the interference with the right to strike, the seizure of union leaders. . . . The order itself orders the disruption of picket lines and peaceful assembly. . . . The expression 'do not temporize' must be read in the light of the orders to provide for hospitalization of civilian employees. This was simply another way of ordering assaults upon pickets and

strikers and the application of force on the slightest provocation."

The Liberties Union (Prof Ross of Wisconsin, chairman, Rev Dr John Haynes Holmes, chairman of board) has protested to President Roosevelt against the "anti-democratic procedure" of the Army in the Inglewood strike.

Police Chief Arthur Hohmann of Los Angeles, addressing the 13th annual Institute of Government, U of Southern California, said: "There was a complete short-circuiting of state's rights when the army moved in on the North American plant. There was no appeal to the US Gov't from the governor. How can you reconcile this with the proclamation by President Roosevelt sending the army into the strike?"

ACLU has offered legal aid to all workers contesting the work-or-fight order sent to draft boards by Gen Hershey; the Union sees in it danger of "a form of forced labor."

"Life" Fools 20,000,000

POWER, says the proverb, corrupts all it touches. Apparently a magazine with 3,000,000 circulation, claiming 20,000,000 readers, believes it is powerful enough not only to fool them in its news stories but to fool them again when the news is challenged.

IN FACT said (July 7) that the May 28 issue of Life had reported that a "typical" American small town, Neosho, Mo., was overwhelmingly for intervention early this spring. A poll of all inhabitants, on the other hand, showed 69.6 against. Many persons had protested to Life. Life, July 7, replied that whereas Springfield Newspapers, which conducted the poll, asked, "Do you favor US entry into European War?" Life's Mr McKelway had asked, "To what extent do you feel we should aid Britain?"

Life again tries to fool its 20,000,000. No matter what questions its reporter asked in Neosho, the fact is that Life's headline said he found "most of its citizens are for intervention." There can be no quibble about this, it is on page 97.

From the text: "I had come to Neosho to try to find out what the town was doing about the war and how the townspeople felt about it."—p 97.

"I asked Mr Bowman and Mrs Beel to tell me how they felt about the war."—p 99. "The Ad Club, I found, is solidly in favor of aiding GB, of convoying . . . of actually getting into the war if that becomes necessary in order to prevent England's defeat."—p 102.

"In talking to businessmen [etc] I found a unanimity of interventionist sentiment that surprised me."—p 105.

"I had found out something of what Neosho was doing about the war and how it felt about the war."—p 107.

In other words, the Life representative says many times that he asked about intervention, not aid to Britain, and he

"Following this start . . . they will be taught . . . formations which are used in . . . handling of street mobs and other forms of domestic disturbances. . . . Training . . . will be continued for 2 weeks."

Boston Globe, July 12: "Five hundred hard-hitting soldiers . . . flailed with clubs and fists in a more or less goodnatured lesson today in 'quelling domestic disturbances' under the direction of Lt Col Michael McLaughlin of Brookline. Almost 100 make-believe 'strikers' were holding a 'mine shaft' when 400 soldiers with gas masks, tin hats and tear gas stormed their position. . . . The real fun began when the 'strikers' tried to break out of the 'pen.' . . . With sticks flying and some tempers reaching the breaking point the soldiers once again put an end to the 'disturbance.' Several men were cut and bruised and kept the medical detachment hard at work.

"The battle for the 'mine shaft' was similar to that carried on by the 3rd battalion. . . . Such work, it was pointed out, is a typical duty of troops, and the practice is necessary as part of the nation's preparedness program."

In NY, an International News Photo of the Camp Edwards episode was carried, with evident approval, by the Journal American (Hearst).

The only editorial protest over the present use of the fascist method in the new camps is in PM, July 15. Managing Editor Lewis asks if the Camp Edwards episode is typical; he suspects it is the action of "one of the Army's lightweights and fools. . . . This incident looks like a fair sample of a fragment of that fool percentage in full operation. . . . If it's the work of a single fool in an officer's uniform, then let him do the explaining. If it's anything more than that, then the uproar over this one may help to scotch it."

"Shoot to Kill"

The Boston story is evidence that the War Dep't did not withdraw its 1936 guide book for strikebreaking, otherwise known as "Basic Field Manual, Vol VII, Part 3, Domestic Disturbances."

When the manual was in use the following charges based on the book were made against the War Department ("You Can't Do That," pages 194-205):

- 1) That the War Dep't was on the reactionary or fascist side.
- 2) That it expected to enlist the American Legion in fighting American workingmen.
- 3) That it was the War Dep't policy in dealing with strikes and other "domestic disturbances" not to issue warnings by a blank shot volley, but to shoot to kill.
- 4) That military officers were urged to disregard the Constitution of the US so far as the law of habeas corpus is concerned.
- 5) That officers were encouraged to act ruthlessly, since killing "by mistake" in handling strikes or mobs would be unpunished.
- 6) That the War Dep't placed property interests above human life.
- 7) That the War Dep't recognized there was a class war going on in America and took its side with wealth, big business and the rich against labor and the poor.

Every one of these charges is borne out by the pamphlet "Military Aid to Civil Authorities," issued by General Douglas MacArthur, countersigned by Brig Gen E T Coonley, and the Basic Field Manual. This latter pamphlet was for sale at 10¢ a copy until the present editor of IN FACT called attention to its fascist nature. The New York Post and World-Telegram (then still liberal papers), The Nation, New Masses, The New Republic took up the matter and protested. New Republic said: "Fascism may seem a vague and foreign-sounding word to great numbers of American citizens, but some highly concrete evidence of what it means may be found in the official regulations of the US War Dep't. . . . In many ways the most sinister foreshadowing of American fascism comes in that part of the regulations instructing a commander in a disturbed area to seek out the 'location of the headquarters of the American Legion. . . .'"

Almost immediately after this protest it was announced that Basic Field Manual Vol 7 Part 3 was withdrawn. IN FACT's editor saw the original order signed Harvey W Miller, Colonel; AGD, Adjutant Gen'l. The US Bureau of Printing stopped the sale. But it is evident from what is happening in our camps that the withdrawal was a meaningless gesture. The reader will note in news dispatches that the Yankee Division men received training in "quelling domestic disturbances," which is the title of the supposedly withdrawn manual.

The Army and Democracy

The Basic Field Manual, which was used by National Guardsmen and private company police as well as by the regular army, contains these brutal instructions: "Blank cartridges should never be used against a mob, nor should a volley be fired over the heads of the mob even if there is little danger of hurting persons in rear. Such things will be regarded as an admission of weakness, or as an attempt to bluff and may do much more harm than good." From other sections of the manual it is clear that what is meant by "mobs" is picket lines.

The manual continues:

"b. Troops will be disposed with the object of . . .

"(2) Driving the mob into or through the districts of the city where looting is the least profitable and where destruction of property incident to military operations will be reduced to a minimum and preferably fall on the rioters or the class of people composing the rioters. . . ." (p 22)

Elsewhere the manual assures commanders that they will not be held liable

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for "honest errors of judgment in determining how much force is necessary in a given emergency," that "a proclamation is not legally necessary for the exercise of martial rule," that the rights of habeas corpus do not need to be observed. It advises them to enlist the help of the American Legion:

Page 25. Section 61. Duties of the military commander: "In his efforts to understand the situation, the commander must set out at once to gather information which should normally include the following . . .

"(b) Much of this information may be secured from the police dep't, supplemented by private detective agencies, railroad detectives. . . .

"(3) The location of the headquarters of the American Legion and other local organizations representing law and order (sic). The meeting places, strength, attitude etc., of the members of these organizations should be ascertained, and a conference with their commanders or leaders should be arranged. . . .

"(6) The attitude of the public press must be learned and conferences arranged with newspaper men. . . ."

In World War I a great spirit of democracy pervaded the American Army. The 2,000,000 men in France actually believed they were fighting to make the world safe for democracy. But the brass hats of the general staff, who secretly admired German militarism, apparently had no use for democracy. In an official Army manual on citizenship the General Staff published the following definition of democracy:

DEMOCRACY: A government of the masses. Authority derived through mass meeting or any other form of "direct" expression. Results in mobocracy. Attitude toward property is communistic—negating property rights. Attitude toward law is that the will of the majority shall regulate, whether it be based upon deliberation or governed by passion, prejudice or impulse, without restraint or regard to consequences. Results in demagogism, license, agitation, discontent, anarchy.

The foregoing quotation from the US manual was quoted by Rep Ross A Collins of Mississippi who accused the brass hats of coming "dangerously near suggesting that a class war is inevitable by continually harping on the dangers of what they call 'collectivist' activities. One wonders if they are trying to strike at such old American organizations as trade unions and such."—(Congressional Record, Jan 10 1930).

IN FACT has also received numerous documents in which anti-labor bias on the part of officers is apparent. Here is one, issued recently:

Will you kindly furnish this office with the following data, as completely and as accurately as possible:

1. Number of employees . . . basic wage scale . . .
2. What labor organizations are active among employees of your organization at the present time?
 - a. Approximately how many members has each labor organization?
 - b. Has any labor organization a contract . . .
3. . . . any delay in production due to labor difficulty?
4. What is your estimate of the likelihood of future labor disturbances . . .

The above requested information is desired as soon as possible in connection with probable labor trouble and will be considered as confidential.

W F Volanda, Colonel, Air Corps Assistant.

Here's another document: it is Purchase Order No S. (we are withholding the number to protect our informant), from War Dep't, S F G Depot, Q M section, Fort Mason, SF, California. Goods to be shipped to sales officer, Presidio. Mimeographed sheet was attached as follows:

LABOR DISPUTES

Contractors will promptly furnish the contracting officer information concerning any actual or potential labor dispute. . . . Information will be furnished by telegram or airmail letter and will include but not be limited to the following:

- a. Name of contractor . . .
- b. Number of contract . . .
- c. Name and/or number of local union and its affiliation.
- d. Name of the president of the local union.



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writes a story which says the town is for intervention, and Life uses a headline saying the town is for intervention. When the poll proves Life fooled its readers Life has the brazenness to say its reporter asked something else. The facts are in Life's May 26 issue. They show up Life.

Boycott of Time, Life

The following press release has been sent to the labor, liberal press of America by the Chicago Printing Trades unions:

PRINTERS ASK ASSISTANCE IN NATION-WIDE FIGHT AGAINST TIME AND LIFE MAGAZINES

The organization committee of Chicago Printing Trades Unions has issued a special appeal to members and friends of organized labor to assist in the nation-wide campaign now being conducted against the anti-union Time and Life magazines. Both of these publications are printed by the union-hating R R Donnelley & Sons (Lakeside Press). Click, Friday, Look and Pic are union-printed magazines and they have features similar to Life. Newsweek, USNews, New Republic, Nation are also union-printed. . . . [So is In Fact]

"At the request of the unions many advertisers have withdrawn their ads from Time and Life. . . . Special literature pertaining to the Time and Life campaign may be obtained" (from 130 N Wells st, Chicago).

15,000 Murdered

A READER (RG, Baltimore) challenges IN FACT's statement (July 14) that the Encyclopedia Britannica admits that Fascist General Mannerheim, Finland's so-called "national hero" ("the Geo Washington of Finland," in US press last year) murdered 15,000 opponents. RG says there is no "Mannerheim" listed in his encyclopedia.

Fact: Encyclopedia Britannica, 14th Edition, Vol 9, page 254, col 1, bottom, speaks of Gen Baron Mannerheim's victories and his "white counter-terror" in which "some 15,000 men, women and children were slaughtered." The 15,000 murdered were industrial workers and peasants. Note the murder of women and children.

The Britannica also says, "by June 27, 1918, 73,915 Red rebels (ie, Finns) including 4,600 women, were prisoners of war." Of these 73,915 the majority died of epidemics, starvation, and torture in the prison camps. Note the description of 4,600 women as "prisoners of war."

These are some of the historic facts which the entire American press failed to mention when it slanted and faked the news for Finland in the Russo-Finnish conflict. Nor was it reported that in 1918 Mannerheim did his fighting and murdering with German aid, as he is doing now.

Exploitation

"THERE has never been but one problem in all civilization, and that is how to prevent a few men from saying to many men: 'You work and earn bread and we will eat it.'"—Lincoln.

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